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FM AMEMBASSY HARARE  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5202  
INFO RUCNSAD/SOUTHERN AF DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE  
RUEHAR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA 3201  
RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 3310  
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 1737  
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 2571  
RUEHDK/AMEMBASSY DAKAR 2940  
RUEHKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 3358  
RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 5806  
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC

Wednesday, 09 December 2009, 13:04  
C O N F I D E N T I A L HARARE 000955

SIPDIS  
AF/S FOR B. WALCH  
DRL FOR N. WILETT  
ADDIS ABABA FOR USAU  
NSC FOR M. GAVIN  
STATE PASS TO USAID FOR J. HARMON AND L. DOBBINS  
EO 12958 DECL: 12/09/2019  
TAGS PREL, PGOV, ZI  
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO MUGABE

Classified By: Ambassador Charles A. Ray for reasons 1.4 (b) & (d).

1. (SBU) Ambassador Ray presented his credentials to President Robert Mugabe today. The Ambassador was the fourth of four ambassadors to do so.  
2. (SBU) As customary, Mugabe immediately launched into his "history lesson," beginning with the revolutionary struggle for one man, one vote.  
3. (SBU) Mugabe averred that Zimbabwe was democratic. Like anywhere, there may have been incidents of police misconduct, but there was no political repression.  
4. (SBU) During a pause in the monologue, Ambassador Ray broke in. He noted the spirit of friendship which had been extended to him by Zimbabwe.  
5. (SBU) Mugabe responded that he would not visit "the sins" of the Ambassador's predecessors on the Ambassador. He hoped the Ambassador was enjoying his visit.

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COMMENT

6. (C) Mugabe appears unchanged from several conversations we have had with him over the last couple of years. He is fixated on land reform and economic development.  
RAY